



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 20, 2017

H.R. 2053 **Mining Schools Enhancement Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on June 27, 2017

SUMMARY

H.R. 2053 would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million a year over the 2018-2024 period for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement to fund research and demonstration projects related to the environmental effects of coal mining. The bill also would require the agency to allocate at least 70 percent of those funds to institutions of higher education with accredited mining or mineral engineering programs.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2053 would cost \$41 million over the 2018-2022 period and \$29 million after 2022. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting the bill would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

H.R. 2053 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2053 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars						2018- 2022
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION							
Authorization Level	0	10	10	10	10	10	50
Estimated Outlays	0	3	8	10	10	10	41

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 2053 will be enacted near the end of fiscal year 2017 and that the specified amounts will be appropriated for each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar activities. In 2016, the agency spent \$2 million on similar activities.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 2053 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 2053 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would benefit institutions of higher education that specialize in mining engineering by dedicating a greater share of federal mining research funds to support activities at such institutions. Any costs those entities might incur would result from participation in a voluntary federal program.

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